

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Status of Claims:

Claims 6 and 8-13 are currently being canceled.

Claims 1, 2, 14 and 15 are currently being amended.

No claims are currently being added.

This amendment amends and cancels claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claims remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 1-5, 7, 14 and 15 are now pending in this application.

Indication of Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicant appreciates the indication of allowable subject matter made in the Office Action with respect to claims 6, 14 and 15. By way of this amendment and reply, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the features of now-canceled claim 6, and thus claim 1 is now in allowable form (claim 6 has depended from claim 1, with no intervening claims therebetween). Claims 14 and 15 have been amended to now depend from claim 1. Claim 2 has been amended based on the incorporation of the features of now-canceled claim 6 into claim 1, and thus claim 2 is now in allowable form. All of the remaining claims that are presently pending depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1, and thus those claims are also now in allowable form.

Comments re: IDS filed 7/24/01 and Claim for Convention Priority:

Applicant's representative appreciates the indication in the Office Action of the claim for convention priority, as well as the inclusion of an initialed copy of the PTO-1449 form submitted with the IDS filed on 7/24/01.

Claim Rejections – Prior Art:

In the Office Action, claims 1, 7-9, 11 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the article "Segmentation of Urban Scenes from Aerial Stereo

Imagery” by Baillard et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,307,573 to Barros and further in view of European Patent 0822502A1 to British Telecom; claims 2 and 4-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baillard et al., Barros and British Telecom in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,577,714 to Darcie et al.; claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baillard et al., Barros, British Telecom and Darcie, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,633,763 to Yoshioka; and claims 10 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baillard et al., Barros and British Telecom, and further in view of an article entitled “Distributed Communication Methods and Role-Based Access Control for Use in Health Care Applications” by Poole et al. Due to the incorporation of the features of objected claim 6 into presently pending independent claim 1, and due to the cancellation of claims 8-13, these rejections are now moot.

Conclusion:

Since all of the issues raised in the Office Action have been addressed in this Amendment and Reply, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and an early indication of allowance is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date September 16, 2005

By Phillip J. Articola

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP

Customer Number: 22428

Telephone: (202) 672-5300

Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

David A. Blumenthal

Registration No. 26,257

Phillip J. Articola

Registration No. 38,819